RI Environmental Monitoring Collaborative
Meeting Agenda
16 December 2004, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Large Conference Room, Coastal Institute, URI Bay Campus

I. Review charge to RI Environmental Monitoring Collaborative (RIEMC). From the statutes that created us, our charge is to produce **{AND OUR CURRENT STATUS}:**

1. Develop a statewide monitoring strategy that consist of:

> *(i) An inventory of existing monitoring programs;* **{IN PROGRESS}**
> *(ii) An outline of additional monitoring programs the state needs;* **{SEE BELOW}**
> *(iii) A list of indicators that will be used to measure the health of the marine habitats of the state. The following are explicitly stated in the Coordination Team statute:*
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>> *(a) land cover or uses within the shoreline buffers (and riparian zones in watersheds);* **{RINHS TEAM, SAV HABITAT TEAM}**
>> *(b) water temperature, salinity, and pH;* **{DEM PLAN, NBC, AND OTHERS}**
>> *(c) concentrations of nitrogen, phosphorous, dissolved oxygen, and bacteria;* **{DEM PLAN, NBC, AND OTHERS}**
>> *(d) water flows and circulation;* **{DEM PLAN, NBC, AND OTHERS}**
>> *(e) species assemblages and relative abundances of finfish, shellfish, and benthic macroinvertebrates; and* **{DEM PLAN, BENTHOS MONITORING TEAM}**
>> *(f) presence of aquatic nuisance (and invasive) species.* **{RINHS, BENTHOS MONITORING TEAM}**
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> *(iv) A list of data standards and protocols that will be used on a reasonable and consistent basis by monitoring programs that contribute data to the state monitoring system;* **{EMBEDDED WITHIN MONITORING PLANS}**
> *(v) A mechanism for data sharing among all monitoring programs that enables both monitors and users to securely access monitoring data via the internet and to retain the integrity of such data;* **{EMBEDDED WITHIN MONITORING PLANS}**
> *(vi) A plan to provide data from the state marine monitoring system for disaster prevention, preparedness, response and recovery efforts in the marine environment; and* **{TO BE DISCUSSED}**
> *(vii) A communications strategy to provide for public access to monitoring data.* **{EMBEDDED WITHIN MONITORING PLANS}**

(2) To assist with the development and implementation of a state water monitoring and assessment program, developed consistent with guidance issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and to augment and implement such a program to achieve the purposes of this strategy set forth in subsection (1) of this section. **{REVIEW OF DEM PLAN IN PROGRESS}**
(3) To prepare an annual report in the month of January to the governor and general assembly on the activities for the preceding year as well as the predicted financial needs of the system for the upcoming fiscal year. **{FORTHCOMING}**
(4) To enter into data sharing agreements with federal and state agencies, municipalities and nongovernmental organizations for the purposes of coordination and management of monitoring data and programs. **{NOT DONE YET}**
(5) To accept grants, donations and contributions in money, services, materials, or otherwise, from the United States or any of its agencies, from this state and its agencies, or from any other source, and to use or expend those moneys, services, materials or other contributions in carrying out the purposes of this chapter. **{NOT RELEVANT YET}**
(6) To enter into agreements for staff support that it deems necessary for its work, and to contract with consultants for the services it may require to the extent permitted by its financial resources. **{WILL REQUEST RIEMC STAFF SUPPORT}**

2. Finalize principles statement

(http://www.ci.uri.edu/Projects/RI-Monitoring/Docs/Core_Principles.pdf)

3. Brief reports from land use, SAV, nuisance species, and benthos teams.

4. Finalize review of DEM plan.

       A. Final comments and recommendations posted to RIMONITORING LIST. Will extract from there for report

5. What data are required for disaster preparedness and damage assessment?

6. How to develop a process to entertain other monitoring initiatives in 2005?
       A. Use principles to assess role and importance of a monitoring initiative

7. Research budget for 2005/06?

8. January meeting to review content of report to Coordination Team?